

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, approximately one in every 800 children are born with Down syndrome, representing approximately 5,000 births per year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while research and early intervention have resulted in dramatic improvements in the life span and potential of those who are affected, more investigation is needed into the causes and treatment of Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, developed by the National Down Syndrome Society in 1995, the Buddy Walk is an annual event in cities across South Carolina and the nation celebrating the accomplishments of children and adults with Down syndrome; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Buddy Walk is to promote increased understanding and accepting of all people with Down syndrome, while raising funds for scientific research into its cause and treatment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2003 as

DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to promote awareness of Down syndrome and the individuals and families it affects.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA